

are described in terms of the oral, anal, genital, and latency periods; and the development of the Oedipus complex, the id, ego, and super ego. The various mechanisms of ego defense are elaborated with simple understandable examples from everyday life or clinical material. The outline suggested for recording the personal history follows the traditional pattern, but the mental status examination is the rather elaborate and ponderous form recommended by Karl Menninger and is not one that is apt to be generally adopted.

The chapter on child psychiatry is simply presented; various case histories are used suitably to exemplify the syndromes described in the text. The psychoneurotic and psychotic reactions are described adequately and in general there is more emphasis and elaboration of the psychotherapeutic approach to mental illness than is found in most of the standard texts. The mental illnesses associated with organic disease of the brain are, however, poorly defined and described, and the descriptions of the neuropathologic processes accompanying these inadequate and at times naive. As a text medical students and social work students may find this volume useful to them if the concepts formulated therein are developed and elaborated by their teachers in a clinical setting.

* * *

CLINICAL ROENTGENOLOGY—Volume II—The Head, Neck and Spinal Column. Alfred A. deLorimier, M.D., Radiologist, St. Francis Memorial Hospital, formerly, Commandant, Army School of Roentgenology; Henry C. Moehring, M.D., Radiologist, Duluth Clinic, Duluth, Minnesota, formerly, Director, School of Roentgenology, Army School of Roentgenology; and John R. Hannan, M.D., Radiologist, Cleveland, Ohio, formerly Director of Medical Training, the Army School of Roentgenology. Charles C. Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, 1954. 464 pages, \$18.50.

As with the first of this four-volume series, the second volume, which covers the head, neck, spinal column, and also the teeth, has the same unusual and very comprehensive format. Not only are good x-ray illustrations presented along with a description of the roentgen manifestations of the various lesions, but of equal or even more importance, general considerations, clinical and laboratory corroborations, as well as points on differential diagnosis, are also included. For this reason the book is most valuable, for all the information which is likely to be needed has been compiled in one place.

This volume will prove to be an excellent source of information for students or doctors who are interested in the skull or neck. Even the most experienced radiologist will find it a handy reference to bring him up to date or to restore his memory on details about which he is almost certain, but not absolutely sure.

* * *

THE DIGITAL CIRCULATION. Milton Mendlowitz, M.D., F.A.C.P., Associate Attending Physician Mount Sinai Hospital, Research Fellow, Columbia University Division of Goldwater Memorial Hospital, New York City. Grune and Stratton, New York, 1954. 182 pages, \$6.75.

Over a period of the past thirty years instrumentation has progressed to the point where studies of digital circulation have seemed to assume validity and meaning in the study of peripheral circulatory changes and as a reflection of central changes. These many and varied studies have not previously been brought together as a coherent presentation of the physiologic, pharmacologic and pathologic aspects as they have been revealed by detailed study.

This monograph presents the available data on digital circulation in an organized manner, pointing out the gaps in our knowledge and the direction which future investigators should pursue.

The volume flow through the fingers and toes and the factors influencing such flow are carefully discussed. The sympathetic nervous system, humeral changes in metabolism and in blood viscosity, as well as heat and cold, are carefully considered. The effect of barbiturates, alcohol, anesthetics and narcotics, as well as the new drugs with direct autonomic control, such as Rauwolfia serpentina, the tetraethylammonium salts, the imidazole substances, and many others, are carefully listed as to the site of action on the autonomic nervous system as well as dosage and tolerance.

The largest single section is devoted to a description of methodology including capillaroscopy, digital blood pressure, oscillometry, skin temperature measurements (calorimetry), plethysmography (pneumatic, photoelectric, impedance), oximetry and polarography. The discussion of peripheral vascular diseases and their physiopathology as related to digital flow is well done and concise. Scleredema, Raynaud's disease, arteriosclerosis, trench foot and frost bite are examples of the subjects considered.

Dr. Mendlowitz has had certain particular interests such as the clubbing of the fingers and pulmonary osteoarthropathy, as well as hypertension and sympathectomy. These are discussed in relation to digital blood flow changes and methods of study.

This book presents a great of information which is extremely technical and is suited only to the physician who has had considerable background in the study of circulatory diseases. This text is not one for general medical consumption but is one which probably would have its greatest value among those who are concerned in the study and treatment of circulatory diseases and especially those who are involved in medical research in the circulatory field. For the physician or researcher in the field of vascular disease this presents not only an excellent compendium of the extant information in regard to digital blood flow, but also an unusually fine bibliography of over six hundred references and an excellent index by an experienced physician and researcher.

* * *

THE TECHNIQUE OF PSYCHOTHERAPY. Lewis R. Wolberg, M.D., Director, Postgraduate Center of Psychotherapy, Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, New York Medical College, Grune and Stratton, New York, 1954. 869 pages, \$14.75.

Perhaps the most adverse reaction to this work will be encountered by the reader in the form of awe and dismay when he first glimpses the formidable size of the tome. Only brief investigation and perusal, however, should convince the courageous and interested inspector of the rewards to be gained for the reading. The work introduces a long absent but needed member in the ranks of psychiatric literature, namely, an impartial but organized and comprehensive survey of various approaches and techniques in psychotherapy. This is by no means limited to the medical specialist in the field but includes considerable material of value to other physicians and the collaborative disciplines in psychiatry.

The author initiates by recognizing some of the obstacles and prejudices to be surmounted in such a project. No attempt is made to stylize any particular approach, to proselytize towards any particular school or to serve as an exponent for any particular brand or "kind" of psychiatry. Rather, a major purpose here is to "include the presentation of a flexible framework within which the individual may develop or augment his therapeutic skill," irrespective of his type of orientation, his point of time in training or subscription to a particular prejudice. It goes without saying that such an approach will have pleasurable appeals for those prejudiced toward eclecticism. The author de-